

NOTE ON AN ALASKAN ELATERID

J. W. SMITH

Department of Entomology, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65201

Between 16-30 June 1974, I had the pleasure of visiting Fairbanks, Alaska, along with several colleagues from the 5503rd U.S.A.R. Hospital. Accompanied by David L. Vincent, I was able to do some collecting during our spare time. On 19 June Dave collected 8 elaterid adults, 20 miles north of Fairbanks, resting in flowers. The same day, I took a similar adult, near Bassett Hospital, at Ft. Wainwright. I subsequently determined these beetles as *Eanus decoratus* Mannerheim (Brown, 1930). Dr. E. C. Becker, Canadian National Collection, Ottawa, kindly confirmed my identification. Portions of the plant, including flowers, were brought to Dr. D. B. Dunn, Curator, University of Missouri Herbarium, who determined it as *Vaccinium uliginosum* L., the Bog Blueberry or Bog Bilberry, a member of the Ericaceae. Potter (1962) reported *V. uliginosum* to be in bloom 15 June in the Fairbanks area.

Rambousek (1929) reported *Agriotes ustulatus* L. on umbelliferous and other plants, Langenbuch (1932) reported *Agriotes obscurus* L. and *A. lineatus* L. on cereal crops, and Cockerham and Deen (1936) stated that corn pollen was the chief diet of adults on *Heteroderes laurenti* Guerin. Gut analyses for pollen were made, but no conclusive evidence could be drawn. Since all 9 beetles were found in the blossoms of *V. uliginosum* and were profusely covered with pollen, they were presumed to be feeding there. Brooks (1960) collected *E. decoratus* in 3 Canadian Provinces, on larch and spruce. Had time allowed, *V. uliginosum* might have proved a good collecting site for him also.

LITERATURE CITED

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